

Serial No. 10/716,728

In the Drawings:

Enclosed, please find substitute drawing sheets for Figs 3 and 4. Please delete existing Figs. 3 and 4 and replace with the enclosed substitute Figs. 3 and 4.

Serial No. 10/716,728

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the office action dated June 28, 2005.

Claims 1-23 were pending in the application. Claims 1-23 were rejected. No claims were allowed.

By way of this amendment, the Applicant has submitted replacement drawing sheets for Figs. 3 and 5 for entry into the file. Claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 12, 13, 18 and 19 have been amended. Claims 3, 5-8, 10, 11, 14-17 and 20-23 remain unchanged.

Accordingly, Claims 1-23 are currently pending.

I. OBJECTION TO DRAWINGS

The drawings were objected to because they did not appear to illustrate a lighting element having an output end "substantially entirely" on the exterior of an end wall as required per claims 2, 4, 9, 13 and 19. Replacement sheets for Figs. 3 and 4 have been presented for entry into the file. The light source, depicted as element 30, was incorrectly drawn and did not properly depict the relationship between the light source and receiver sleeve as described within the specification and claims of the present invention. The drawing figures have been revised to properly depict the relationship between these elements. No new subject matter has been added in this amendment and the modifications to the drawings simply serve to bring the drawing figures into agreement with the specification and claims of the application as filed.

In view of the corrected drawing figures, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

II. OBJECTION TO SPECIFICATION

The specification was objected to for failing to provide antecedent basis for "said output end". While it is a commonly known that any light source has a distinct and well known output end, the Applicant has amended the claim to refer to the "output end" of the light source as an "optical end", a term that is fully disclosed and supported in the specification.

Serial No. 10/716,728

In view of the amendments to the claims, the claimed terminology is believed to be fully supported and includes the required antecedent basis. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC 112

Claims 2, 4 and 9-23 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Regarding Claims 2, 4, 9, 13 and 19 The Examiner indicated that the phrase "said output end" is not supported and "being received substantially outside" is not depicted in the figures. As stated above, the figures have been revised to correctly depict the relationship between the light source and the receiver sleeve and the term "output end" has been amended in favor of the fully supported term "optical end".

Regarding Claims 12 and 18, the Examiner stated that the terms "illuminated aperture" and "non-illuminated end wall" lack antecedent basis. The Applicant has amended these claims to clearly define these structural elements and provide antecedent basis for these terms within the claims.

Based on the above amendments to the claims and drawing figures, these claims are believed to be definite under §112 and reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC 102 - OXLEY

Claims 1-7, 10 and 12-17 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b), as being anticipated by US Patent No. 4,712,163 (Oxley). The rejection stated that Oxley discloses a receiver sleeve with a first end and a second end a tubular side wall and a planar end wall with an interior surface, an exterior surface and an aperture there through, a mounting board and a lighting device having an output end in alignment with the aperture and adjacent the exterior surface of the end wall and that since Oxley discloses every element of the present invention, the claims of the present application are anticipated and therefore not patentable.

Serial No. 10/716,728

The cited Oxley reference creates an assembly that is exactly the inverse of the structure claimed in the present invention. The Oxley device provides for inserting an LED light source into the interior of a tubular housing. In contrast, the present invention positions the led in aligned relation with an aperture adjacent the exterior surface of the end wall. This limitation is clearly claimed in the claims of the present invention. In Oxley the device is concerned with inserting an LED into an assembly that serves to protect the LED and facilitates integration of the LED into conventional indicator lamp applications. In this regard, Oxley describes placing the output end of the LED on the interior of the sleeve. Reference 26 is not an exterior surface of an end wall, reference 26 is the rear circular surface of the light source itself. It is not clear therefore how the light source could be positioned adjacent the "exterior surface" 26 when the "exterior surface" 26 is actually a part of the light source itself.

The claims of the present invention clearly include the limitation that the optical portion of the LED be positioned adjacent an exterior surface of the end wall such that the light output is directed into an aperture in the end wall. The black coating, shown as the dark line in Fig. 1 of the cited reference clearly prevents any light from entering the receiver sleeve at all. Further, this is the stated objective in the Oxley reference, to prevent light from exiting the LED at any angle other than the forward angle.

Further, the Examiner has indicated that two apertures are formed to receive terminations 20 and 22. The problem is that the aperture in the present invention is formed in the end wall of the receiver sleeve for capturing light output from the output end of the LED. The apertures identified by the Examiner are located at the rear of the LED, and accordingly serve no purpose in interacting with the output end of the LED as required by the claims of the present invention.

Since the present invention, in the claims as amended, recites subject matter that is not disclosed in Oxley, the cited Oxley reference cannot anticipate the present invention as required under §102 and therefore the rejection is not believed to be applicable. Reconsideration, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully solicited.

Serial No. 10/716,728

V. REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC 102 - WANG

Claims 18, 19, 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b), as being anticipated by US Patent No. 4,949,231 (Wang). The rejection stated that Wang discloses a housing having a first end and a second end, a receiver sleeve received into said housing, said receiver sleeve with a first end and a second end a tubular side wall and a planar end wall with an interior surface, an exterior surface and an aperture there through, a non-reflective coating on the interior surface of the side wall and a lighting device having an output end in alignment with the aperture and adjacent the exterior surface of the end wall such that the light entering the receiver sleeve through the aperture does not impinge on the interior surface of said end wall, said interior surface of said end wall remaining non-illuminated and that since Oxley discloses every element of the present invention, the claims of the present application are anticipated and therefore not patentable.

The receiver sleeve in Wang is simply a reflector. The entire interior surface of the receiver sleeve has a polished reflective surface for receiving the light output from the light source and reshaping and redirecting that output. The novel aspect of the present invention lies in the fact that the light output from the light source is managed in an entirely different fashion. The present invention positions that light source adjacent the exterior surface of the rear wall of the receiver sleeve. In this manner as the light enters the receiver sleeve it passes forward to the opposite end of the receiver sleeve without illuminating the interior surface of the end wall. The lens in the device then serves to image the light output and the non-illuminated end wall thereby creating a sharp beam cut off image. This sharp image is the result of a high contrast between the highly illuminated aperture and the dark, non-illuminated interior surface of the end wall.

In contrast, the output end of the light source in Wang fully extends into the interior of the receiver sleeve and the entire interior surface of the receiver sleeve is fully illuminated and assists in reshaping the beam output. The claims of the present invention clearly include the limitation that the optical portion of the LED be positioned adjacent an exterior surface of the end wall such that the light output is directed into an aperture in the end wall.

Serial No. 10/716,728

Since the present invention, in the claims as amended, recites subject matter that is not disclosed in Wang, the cited Wang reference cannot anticipate the present invention as required under §102 and therefore the rejection is not believed to be applicable. Reconsideration, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully solicited.

VI. REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC 103

Claims 8 and 11 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oxley in view of US Published Application No. 2002/0110320 (Carlisle). The Examiner has stated that although Oxley does not disclose a lens positioned at a distance from the end wall at a distance approximately equal to the focal length of the lens, Carlisle discloses positioning a lens in such a fashion and that the present invention is obvious in light of the combination of these references.

As stated above in the comments related Oxley alone, the cited Oxley reference creates an assembly that is exactly the inverse of the structure claimed in the present invention. The Oxley device provides for inserting an LED light source into the interior of a tubular housing. In contrast, the present invention positions the led in aligned relation with an aperture adjacent the exterior surface of the end wall. This limitation is clearly claimed in the claims of the present invention. In Oxley the device is concerned with inserting an LED into an assembly that serves to protect the LED and facilitates integration of the LED into conventional indicator lamp applications. In this regard, Oxley describes placing the output end of the LED on the interior of the sleeve. Reference 26 is not an exterior surface of an end wall, reference 26 is the rear circular surface of the light source itself. It is not clear therefore how the light source could be positioned adjacent the "exterior surface" 26 when the "exterior surface" 26 is actually a part of the light source itself.

The claims of the present invention clearly include the limitation that the optical portion of the LED be positioned adjacent an exterior surface of the end wall such that the light output is directed into an aperture in the end wall. The black coating, shown as

Serial No. 10/716,728

the dark line in Fig. 1 of the cited reference clearly prevents any light from entering the receiver sleeve at all. Further, this is the stated objective in the Oxley reference, to prevent light from exiting the LED at any angle other than the forward angle.

Further, the Examiner has indicated that two apertures are formed to receive terminations 20 and 22. The problem is that the aperture in the present invention is formed in the end wall of the receiver sleeve for capturing light output from the output end of the LED. The apertures identified by the Examiner are located at the rear of the LED, and accordingly serve no purpose in interacting with the output end of the LED as required by the claims of the present invention.

The purpose of the addition of the lens in the present invention is to image both the highly illuminated aperture and the dark region (non-illuminated interior surface of the rear wall) thereby providing a beam image in the far field of the device that has a highly defined and sharp beam image. By adding the Carlisle lens to the Oxley device, the combination would simply serve to re-image the face of the Oxley indicator light. There would be no contrast or sharp beam image as disclosed and claimed by the present invention.

The simple addition of the Carlisle disclosure regarding the use of a lens located at a distance approximately equal to its focal length does not serve to overcome the other structural differences. Therefore, even should the Oxley and Carlisle references be combined as provided by the Examiner, the present invention in the claims as amended simply would not be disclosed for at least the reasons set forth above. Since the cited combination does not produce the device of the present invention in the claims as amended, the combination cannot render the present invention obvious under §103. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully solicited.

III. CONCLUSION

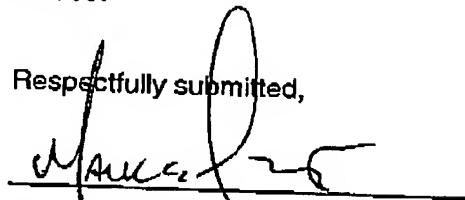
Accordingly, claims 1-23 are believed to be in condition for allowance and the application ready for issue.

Corresponding action is respectfully solicited.

Serial No. 10/716,728

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Respectfully submitted,



Mark E. Tetreault, Esq.

Reg. No. 48,289

BARLOW, JOSEPHS & HOLMES, Ltd.
101 Dyer Street, 5th Floor
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 273-4446 (tel)
(401) 273-4447 (fax)
met@barjos.com